



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR NANCY WYMAN

Connecticut Office of Health Reform & Innovation

## Health Technology Work Group Minutes

Thursday, November 23, 2011  
Meeting Minutes

**Co-leads:** Roderick Bremby; Victor Villagra

**Members:** Alexis Fedorjaczenko; Peter Zelez, Bobbi Schmidt; Mark Raymond; John Vittner; Louis Polzella; Vanessa Kapral; Lori Reed-Forquet; Cheryl Wamuo; Hari Chanda; Tia Cintron; Mark Heuschkel; Thomas Agresta; Tim Desmond, Terrence Macy

---

### **Welcome & Introductions**

#### **New Business**

- Inventory review:
  - Department of Public Health : IT Applications Overview by Hari Chandra
  - Department of Public Health: Inventory
  - Connecticut Health Database Compendium
    - Presentations are available online at:  
<http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/cwp/view.asp?a=2742&q=333606>

#### **Q & A**

John Vittner adds a comment to Hari Chandra's presentation:

- It appears that millions of dollars to DPH for federal programs create silos of information. It appears there has been some success in getting systems to talk to each. From a non-technical side, this workgroup needs to determine how electronic records are managed cradle to grave. Providers of the health care systems are also regulated by DPH. Mr. Vittner asks, "How do we in DPH and broadly, have these systems talk to each other and integrate seamlessly?"

Mr. Chanda's Response:

- DPH suggests building a foundation for streamlining the systems to talk to each other. Collaboration at the beginning, when responding to mandates. He mentions an increasing number of applications. Working through challenges is needed. HITE has created their own system in which we need to comply. In order

to plan for 5 years from now, agencies must respond to intermediate solutions available and bring people in with advanced technology experience to do this. Vanessa Kapral adds another comment to address John's issue regarding data ownership and sharing.

- Legislation and mandates by CDC that limit data sharing within DPH is being addressed by the commissioner and by individuals inside DPH who are working through this internally. The challenge is getting people who feel they own the data to share it without violating HIPAA concerns.

Mr. Chandra says every grant with an IT consultant needs to collaborate.

- Lori Reed-Forquet adds the need for bi-directional flow of information.
- Peter Zelez asks about quality protocols for data feeds and entry points, and what DPH intends to do with the data once collaboration and data sharing exists in repositories and warehouses.

Mr. Chandra responds appropriate authorization and authentication is met with data exchange between silos. Important testing and data protection mechanisms are used.

- Real-time data analysis is not yet available, but DPH is working towards this. Sharepoint data housing can sometimes allow for this type of access.
- Regarding a question about DPH data types, Mr. Chandra responds that DPH does have some registry and some clinical data available.

Victor Villagra says:

- In terms of burden of illness and cost, production-based population reports would significantly aid policy-makers.

### **Next Steps**

- The group will begin to address how system specifics will benefit policy.
- The group will complete the inventory review over the next two meetings.
- The group approves minutes from the last meeting

### **Next Meeting**

Next meeting, Thursday, December 8, 2011 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Location: Legislative Office Building, Room 1B

Call In: 888-469-1387 Passcode: TECH

Cabinet meeting, Thursday December 8, 2011 at 9:00am

Presentation from the APCD, for CT's Multi-Payer Claims Database

### **Public Comment**

- No public comment

### **Adjourn**